



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**Committee Bill No. 42**

LCO No. 3381

Referred to Committee on Planning and Development

Introduced by:  
(PD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL CHARTERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 7-188 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2003*):

4 (a) Any municipality, in addition to such powers as it has under the  
5 provisions of the general statutes or any special act, shall have the  
6 power to: [(1) adopt and amend]

7 (1) Adopt a charter which shall be its organic law and shall  
8 supersede any existing charter, including amendments thereto, and  
9 shall supersede all special acts that are inconsistent with such charter  
10 or amendments. [, which] Such charter [or amended charter] may  
11 include the provisions of any special act concerning the municipality  
12 but [which] shall not otherwise be inconsistent with the Constitution  
13 or general statutes. [, provided nothing] Nothing in this section shall  
14 be construed to provide that any special act or existing charter  
15 provision relative to any municipality is repealed solely because such  
16 special act or existing charter provision is not included in the charter;

17 [or amended charter; (2) amend]

18 (2) Adopt amendments to a charter which shall supersede any  
19 existing charter provisions amended, and shall supersede all special  
20 acts that are inconsistent with such amendments. Such amendment  
21 may include the provisions of any special act concerning the  
22 municipality but shall not otherwise be inconsistent with the  
23 Constitution or general statutes. Nothing in this section shall be  
24 construed to provide that any special act or charter provision relative  
25 to any municipality is repealed solely because such special act or  
26 charter provision is not included in an amendment;

27 (3) Amend a home rule ordinance which has been adopted prior to  
28 October 1, 1982, which revised home rule ordinance shall not be  
29 inconsistent with the Constitution or the general statutes; [and (3)  
30 repeal] and

31 (4) Repeal any such home rule ordinance by adopting a charter,  
32 provided the rights or benefits granted to any individual under any  
33 municipal retirement or pension system shall not be diminished or  
34 eliminated.

35 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 7-192 of the general statutes is  
36 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
37 *1, 2003*):

38 (a) Every charter, special act and home rule ordinance in effect on  
39 October 1, 1982, shall continue in effect until repealed or superseded  
40 by the adoption of a charter, charter amendments or home rule  
41 ordinance amendments in accordance with this chapter, the provisions  
42 in any charter in existence on said date governing revision or  
43 amendment to the contrary notwithstanding. Nothing in this section  
44 shall prohibit the adoption of a revised home rule ordinance or home  
45 rule ordinance amendments by any method established in such home  
46 rule ordinance if the provisions concerning such method were in effect

47 on July 15, 1959. Any municipality administering its local affairs under  
48 the provisions of the general statutes or special acts adopted prior to  
49 said date may continue to so administer its local affairs [until] and may  
50 amend its charter under such special acts in addition to the right of the  
51 electors of such municipality to avail themselves of the provisions of  
52 this chapter to adopt a charter or to amend a charter. Any municipality  
53 having as its organic law a home rule ordinance or a revised or  
54 amended home rule ordinance shall after any revision or amendment  
55 of such ordinance publish, in a single document, any such home rule  
56 ordinance and shall make such ordinance available at a nominal cost to  
57 any member of the public.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

**PD**      *Joint Favorable*